

**Town of Rowe**  
Board of Selectmen – Minutes  
Wednesday, October 5, 2016 – 3:00 pm  
Rowe Town Hall

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**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 3:00pm.

**Present:** Chair Wilson, Selectman Dennis May and Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau

**Also Present:** David Cousineau

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. More Discussion about the Discontinuance of Lower Tunnel Road: Chair Wilson said that in MA General Law Chapter 82 Section 32a the Select Board, after holding a public Hearing and notifying abutters and meeting posting requirements, can vote to abandon maintenance of lower Tunnel Road. Town Counsel said that lower Tunnel road could be plowed by a private contractor.
2. Appointments: Paulette Roccio to Cultural Council, Paul McLatchy III and Prudence Berry to Election Workers.

**Motion to Appoint:** Chair Wilson made a motion to appoint Paulette Roccio to serve as Cultural Council Member. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1)

**Motion to Appoint:** Chair Wilson made a motion to appoint Paul McLatchy III and Prudence Berry to serve as Election Workers. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1)

3. Discuss Transportation for Secondary School Students: Chair Wilson said it was unclear whether the \$56,084.00 charge for transportation should be paid to the Mohawk Trail Regional School District (MTRSD) for FY17. For the last 8 years Rowe has been paying a separate transportation charge in addition to the per student charge which was not indicated in the Agreement. There has been no response from MTRSD regarding whether this transportation charge was in fact in error. In addition, Selectman May said the Rowe group, with a member from Select Board, Finance and School Committees, that had met with MTRSD Financial Manager and Superintendent from Rowe were waiting for MTRSD to provide the correct calculation of tuition for next year since Rowe found inconsistencies with that as well. It was agreed it would be helpful to have a response from MTRSD for citizens to make an informed decision whether to re-join the MTRSD at Special Town Meeting.
4. Transfer Station Washout Discussion: Board of Health Chair David Cousineau reported on the Transfer Station washout and the emergency situation created that needed to be done as mandated by the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP). He was waiting to hear from Andrea Woods, Chief Procurement Officer for Franklin Regional Council of Governments to verify Emergency waiver procedures related to procurement due to the emergency. It was an urgent situation and the DEP required work to be completed as soon as possible by a deadline

of October 26, 2016. Mr. Cousineau explained the remedies planned for the site following receipt of the plan presented by Trinity Engineering.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. MW to update with meeting with Town Counsel: Chair Wilson reported meeting with Town Counsel to review procedures for the Public Hearing. In addition, Town Counsel is speaking with an Attorney representing citizens on Tunnel Road in response of the letter informing the 2 households of Tunnel Road that, due to the weight limits of the bridge getting from River Road to Tunnel Road, that Rowe can no longer provide services to the residents. A town emergency vehicle can cross the bridge to pick up a citizen and then transport to the ambulance which would wait at the foot of the bridge. Chair Wilson presented the Board with a document entitled, 'Towns Requirements from Mass Broadband Institute' that Town Counsel had reviewed.
2. Chief Procurement Officer Request Letter: Select Board Members reviewed a request from the Office of Inspector General about updating Rowe's Chief Procurement Officer files.

**Motion to Sign:** Upon review, Chair Wilson made a motion to sign the 'No Appointment of Chief Procurement Officer' for Rowe and use the services provided by Franklin Regional Council of Governments. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1)

3. Motor Vehicles Refund Report – Tax Collector: A Motor Vehicle Refunds Report was presented for the amount of \$14.37.

**Motion to Sign:** Upon review, Chair Wilson made a motion to sign the A Motor Vehicle Refunds Report for the amount of \$14.37. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1)

4. Bridge Reports Reviewed: Select Board Members reviewed the Mass Dept. of Transportation (MassDOT) reports for Steele Brook Rd., Kings Highway, Leshures Rd., Cyrus Stage Rd. and Sibley Rd. It was agreed to speak with Highway Superintendent about the bridges to discuss repairs where needed.
5. Reserve Officer Training: Chair Wilson said that Chief Shippee requested approval for training for an interested citizen to serve as a reserve officer for the town. Since the Town was paying for training, there was discussion about a policy concerning payment for training.

**Motion to Approve Reserve Officer Training:** Following discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to approve the application fee for the "Reserve/Intermittent Recruit Officer Course" with the County Sheriff's Office. The training payment is paid with the understanding that the Trainee, upon completion of the course, works for The Town of Rowe for one year. The motion, seconded by Selectman May, was accepted. (2/0/1)

